



## **Soledad Farmer's Market to debut in June**

BY SCN CONTRIBUTOR 2/28/07

The Oldtown Soledad Beautification Association is in the planning stages for a Soledad Farmers' Market which will debut on Thursday, June 7, from 5-8 p.m. on Encinal St. between Front and Monterey Streets. This Certified Farmers' Market will be held every Thursday from 5-8 p.m. through the second week in October.

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, the Soledad City Council approved the street closure and use of city maintenance workers after hearing presentations by Jessica Harris, board member of Oldtown Soledad Beautification Association (OSBA), Deborah Yashar, food systems coordinator with the Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association (ALBA) and a local farmer, Ana Juarez of Rio de Parras Organics.

"Having a farmer's market in Soledad will offer healthy eating options as well as a family friendly community event week after week," Harris said. "By holding a farmer's market, the OSBA is also creating another venue for local businesses and non-profits to showcase their services and resources."

The Soledad Farmer's Market will be presented by the Oldtown Soledad Beautification Association, which will work with ALBA and local farmers to provide fresh, local fruits and vegetables for the weekly market. Vendor application packets will be available by March 1. Parties interested in having a booth should contact the OSBA at 678-3941 or by e-mail at [oldtownsoledad@yahoo.com](mailto:oldtownsoledad@yahoo.com).

The mission of the Oldtown Soledad Beautification Association is to create and sustain effective partnerships between and with businesses, property owners and the City of Soledad to ensure economic growth and vitality in Oldtown Soledad. ALBA's mission is to advance economic viability, social equity and ecological land management among limited-resource and aspiring farmers.